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Security Council

Seventieth year

Provisional

7537th meeting
Tuesday, 20 October 2015, 9.30 a.m.
New York

President:	Mr. Oyarzun Marchesi	(Spain)
Members:	Angola	Mr. Gaspar Martins
	Chad	Mr. Cherif
	Chile	Mr. Barros Melet
	China	Mr. Xu Zhongsheng
	France	Mr. Bertoux
	Jordan	Mrs. Kawar
	Lithuania	Mr. Baublys
	Malaysia	Mr. Ibrahim
	New Zealand	Mr. Van Bohemen
	Nigeria	Mrs. Ogwu
	Russian Federation	Mr. Iliichev
	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	Mr. Hickey
	United States of America	Ms. Sison
	Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)	Mr. Méndez Graterol

Agenda

The situation in the Central African Republic

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The meeting was called to order at 9.40 a.m.

Adoption of the agenda

The agenda was adopted.

The situation in the Central African Republic

The President (*spoke in Spanish*): The Security Council will now begin its consideration of the item on its agenda.

After consultations among Council members, I have been authorized to make the following statement on their behalf:

"The Security Council expresses its deep concern about the recent upsurge of violence and instability in the Central African Republic, which aimed at destabilizing the country and jeopardizing the transition process. The Security Council strongly condemns such violence, including all attacks against civilians, intercommunal violence, targeted violence against women and children, lootings of humanitarian premises and attacks against United Nations peacekeepers.

"The Security Council emphasizes that some of these attacks may constitute war crimes and that those responsible for all abuses and violations of human rights and violations of international humanitarian law must be held accountable.

"The Security Council also emphasizes that those undermining the peace, stability or security of the Central African Republic, threatening or impeding the political transition process, targeting civilians and attacking peacekeepers may meet criteria for designation under sanctions as stated in resolution 2196 (2015).

"The Security Council reiterates its strong condemnation of all violations of applicable international law and demands that all parties concerned strictly comply with their obligations under international humanitarian law and international human rights law, as applicable, as well as implement relevant decisions of the Security Council.

"The Security Council reiterates its support for the Transitional Authority, under the leadership of Catherine Samba-Panza as the Transitional Head of State, and calls on all stakeholders in the Central African Republic to commit to peace and reconciliation through the implementation o agreements adopted at the Bangui Forum in 2015.

"The Security Council reiterates its dec to apply the asset freeze and travel ban meas contained in paragraphs 4 and 7 of resolution (2015), to individuals and entities engagin or providing support for acts that undermin peace, stability or security of the Central Af Republic, consistent with paragraph 11 and resolution 2196 (2015). The Security Council reiterates its intention to further expand the li individuals and entities maintained by the Sanc Committee established pursuant to resolution (2013) by adding those responsible for the re outbreak of violence, particularly those who provided support to, acted for or on behalf of, the direction of an individual or an entity alr sanctioned by the Committee.

"The Security Council reiterates that t responsible for the recent violence, both perpetr and those who otherwise participate, should be accountable and reiterates that some of those re acts of violence may amount to crimes unde Rome Statute of the International Criminal C (ICC), to which the Central African Republ State party. The Security Council welcomes in regard the statement of the Prosecutor of the of 30 September 2015 regarding the recent ups of violence in the Central African Repu and in which the Prosecutor noted that a ago, following a referral by the Central Af Republic authorities, the Prosecutor opene investigation into crimes committed in the cou since 1 August 2012.

"The Security Council calls on the Transit Authorities to launch, with the technical assist of the United Nations Multidimensional Integ Stabilization Mission in the Central Af Republic (MINUSCA), investigations to ide those responsible and bring them to justice.

"The Security Council underlines the pos role that the domestic Special Criminal Court n play in this regard, stresses the urgency in the C taking up its initial functions, and emphasize need for MINUSCA to provide technical assist and capacity building for the Central Af Republic Authorities in line with paragraph 3 of its mandate pursuant to resolution 2217 (20

"The Security Council expresses concern about the recurring incidents of prisoners escaping from custody in the Central African Republic, which negatively impacts the fight against impunity and the efforts to stabilize the country, and calls upon the Transitional Authorities to bolster their efforts to investigate, prosecute and detain prisoners in a safe, secure and humane manner, with MINUSCA's support as appropriate, in accordance with its mandate. It also expresses its concerns about the reported participation of some elements of the Forces armées centrafricaines in the recent incidents in Bangui, underlining the need for training and the importance of progress in reforming the security sector, including on vetting and on accountability processes in the defence and security forces, to be accomplished before the Forces armées centrafricaines can be returned to operational duties.

"The Security Council demands that all those who seek to weaken the transitional Government from within and outside the Central African Republic, including militias and non-State armed groups, cease all forms of violence and destabilizing activities immediately, lay down their arms, and fully implement the agreement for cessation of hostilities and violence, signed on 23 July 2014 in Brazzaville, Congo, as well as the agreement on principles of disarmament, demobilization and reintegration and security sector reform adopted at the Bangui Forum of May 2015.

"The Security Council takes note of the significant progress achieved in the voters registration process in the Central African Republic, with an unprecedented number of citizens registered to date, calls for this process to be completed swiftly, and emphasizes the importance of the registration of all Central African Republic populations, including refugees in neighbouring States.

"The Security Council reiterates the critical importance and urgency of holding the constitutional referendum and first rounds of presidential and legislative elections by the end of 2015 in a free, fair, transparent manner, which is inclusive of all the components of the Central African Republic society, and in accordance with the Transitional Constitutional Charter. In this regard, the Security Council underlines that the provisions of the Transitional Constitutional Charter should be strictly and fully implemented, and calls on the Transitional Authorities, including the National Electoral Authority and the National Transitional Council, to adopt and publish, without any further delay, a revised calendar for the holding of elections as soon as possible. The Security Council also calls upon the National Electoral Authority to continue the preparations for the referendum and the elections, without delay.

"The Security Council underscores the importance of making all appropriate efforts to ensure peace and reconciliation in the Central African Republic, in this regard commends the joint action of religious leaders in the Central African Republic in pursuing intercommunal peace, and calls upon the Central African Republic authorities to take all necessary steps to create conditions for lasting reconciliation, including by protecting civilians from any religious or ethnic-based violence.

"The Security Council emphasizes that the continued role of the region, including the international mediator, the Chair of the Economic Community of Central African States and the countries of the subregion, as well as the African Union and the United Nations as participants in the mediation, is critical for the promotion of lasting peace and stability in the Central African Republic. The Security Council encourages countries in the region to further use their leverage and regional meetings to encourage progress on the transition and towards the elections and to prevent spoilers, within the Central African Republic and outside, from attempting to disrupt these processes.

"The Security Council calls upon troop- and police-contributing countries to MINUSCA to expedite the upgrading of their capabilities, and urges other Member States to provide the necessary support to enable them to reach United Nations standards without any further delay.

"The Security Council further calls upon the international community to continue to support the Central African Republic by addressing critical priorities articulated by Central Africans during the Bangui Forum for the next 12 to 18 months, which include disarmament, demobilization, reintegration and repatriation, security sector reform, justice and reconciliation, including the establishment of the

domestic Special Criminal Court, strengthening the capacity of local courts and the establishment of the commission on truth, justice, reparation and reconciliation, the restoration and extension of State authority in support of democratic and economic governance, and economic and social development. The Security Council welcomes the high-level event held on the margins of the General Assembly, and encourages Member States that have pledged support for these programmes to disburse funds quickly and to garner additional support in priority areas that remain underfunded.

"The Security Council reiterates its support for MINUSCA to assist, as mandated by the Security Council in resolution 2217 (2015), the Transitional Authority and the people of the Central African Republic in their efforts to bring lasting peace and stability to their country, protect civilians, including those targeted on ethnic or religious grounds, and restore State authority over the entire territory.

"The Security Council expresses concern over reports that two sanctioned individuals are travelling in the region, and underlines its observation that individuals who knowingly facilitate the travel of a listed individual in violation of the travel ban may be determined by the Committee to have met the designation criteria for sanctions."

This statement will be issued as a document of the Security Council under the symbol S/PRST/2015/17.

The meeting rose at 9.50 a.m.